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520.41064X00/NT0550US

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Akira HAMAMATSU *et al.*
Appl'n No. : 10/050,776
Filed : 18 January 2002
For : APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR INSPECTING DEFECTS
Art Unit : 2877
Examiner : M.P. Stafira
Conf. No : 9567

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AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
POB 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

5 August 2004

Sir:

In response to the Office Action having a USPTO mailing date of 5 March 2004, Applicant respectfully submits the following amendments and remarks in connection with the above-identified application.

In accordance with the revised format of the manner of making amendments under 37 CFR §1.121 as set forth in the Final Rule effective 30 July 2003, each section of amendment herein begins on a new page, and changes are shown by strike-through (or double brackets where appropriate) and underlining to indicate deletions and additions, respectively. A complete listing of all claims ever presented in the application is given with the current status of each claim, and only the text of all pending and withdrawn claims is presented in full, with those not being amended herein being presented in clean version.